

The Flyway

Spring 2012



Quarterly newsletter of Nisqually and Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuges

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Chief Leschi1

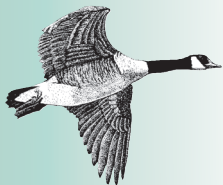
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*Save the
Dates!*

**The Grays
Harbor
Shorebird
Festival
will be held
May 4-6 in
Hoquiam.**

Leschi Slough Officially Named

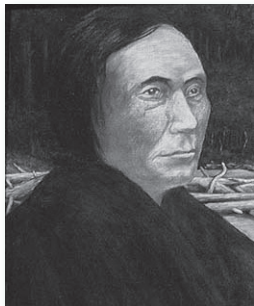
The recent restoration of 762 acres of the Nisqually Estuary has significant meaning and implications for the Nisqually Indian Tribe. The ancestors of the Nisqually people used the resources of the delta in their daily lives. The Nisqually Delta was also

the site of the council grounds. "Here the bands gathered periodically as the drums called them for feasting, dancing, and scholastitudes, ceremonies performed by young men being taken into adult status in the tribe." (Leschi, Last Chief of

Continued on page 2

The Life and Times of Chief Leschi

Cecelia Svinth Carpenter's book, Leschi, Last Chief of the Nisquallies does a wonderful job of describing Leschi's life. Below is a brief synopsis taken from this book. The quotes come from the book.



Chief Leschi

Leschi was born in 1808 to a Nisqually father and a Yakima mother in a village located near where the Mashel River enters the Nisqually River. His family used the upland prairies to graze and winter the family's horse herd. He would join the other families

in villages along the Nisqually River for food gathering and friendship. In the Nisqually Delta, he would fish and gather food from the rich salt marshes and sloughs. "As Leschi grew

into adulthood, he became known as a man of great intelligence possessing superb oratorical abilities. He

developed the wisdom of a judge and was often called upon to settle disagreements among his tribesman."

"Leschi was born to be a leader. His people believe that the star that rose over the Nisqually Plain on the day of his birth predestined him to become someday a war chief on behalf of his people. But ironically the title of chief would be bestowed upon him by a territorial governor who would later demand his life on the gallows."

In 1853, as Governor Isaac Stevens was setting up a treaty commission, he named a chief for each tribe. These chiefs would be asked to sign government treaties on behalf of their people. Leschi was appointed chief of the Nisqually people by Stevens, but in 1854 Leschi refused to sign the Medicine Creek Treaty believing the proposed reservation to be inadequate for the Nisqually people. Leschi then

worked trying to keep peace with the settlers and the government and to get a better reservation

Leschi ... worked trying to keep peace with the settlers and the government and to get a better reservation for his people. What followed were several years of brutality, killings, and broken promises between settlers, the government, and the local Indian Tribes.

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Chief Leschi

From page 1

for his people. What followed were several years of brutality, killings, and broken promises between settlers, the government, and the local Indian Tribes. Leschi, along with his brother Quiemuth, continued to work towards peace but circumstances were against them. Quiemuth was murdered in the governor's office, and Leschi was imprisoned and charged with murder in the death of a soldier. Leschi maintained his innocence in the murder but was sentenced to die. Appeals to the high court did not reverse the verdict and on February 19, 1858, Leschi was hanged.

"He had taken a stand for his people in the reservations matter, and in time the Nisquallies acquired better land. But false accusations and political maneuvering would cost him his life." In 2004, after years of work by his descendants and others of the Nisqually Tribe, Leschi was exonerated of the crime for which he was executed. ✎

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Save trees, think green

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Leschi Slough

From page 1

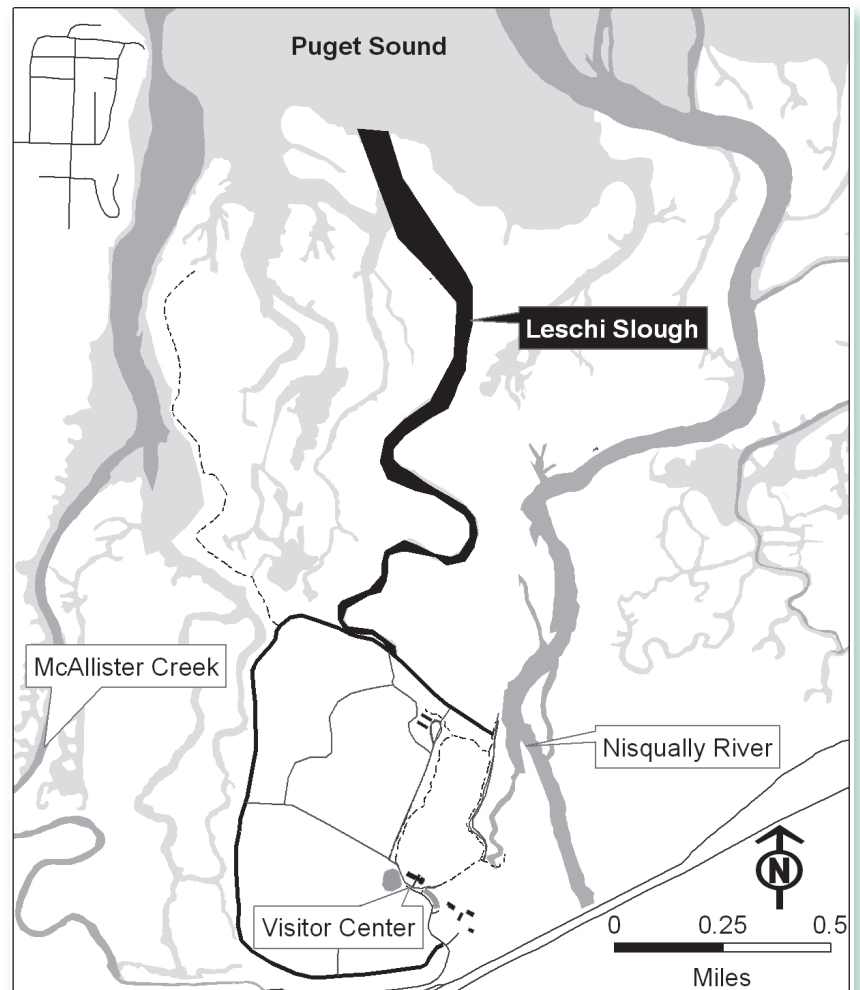
the Nisquallies, by Cecelia Svinth Carpenter). Life and the use of the Delta changed for the tribes with the signing of the Medicine Creek Treaty in 1854. Among other things, the treaty enabled more settlement and land ownership in the area. By the late 1800's, settlers were already changing the landscape of the Nisqually Delta.

The newly restored areas, including Leschi Slough, are a place that Chief Leschi knew during his lifetime, a place where he spent time hunting and fishing. During the time of Leschi's exoneration hearing by the State of Washington, some members of the Nisqually River Council and Nisqually Indian Tribe approached the Refuge

about the possibility of naming something at the Refuge to honor Chief Leschi. When the restoration of the Nisqually Delta became a reality, the Refuge proposed to the Nisqually Indian Tribe that the longest historic tidal slough in the restored area be named Leschi Slough.

The Nisqually Tribal Council supported the proposal, but the formal naming process took over a year and a half. It was complicated considerably by the legislative elimination of the state board responsible for naming geographic features. The application was therefore forwarded to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, who in late October officially approved the name Leschi Slough. ✎

Leschi Slough meanders across the estuary.



Spring Programs

April

Saturday, April 7

How to Keep a Wave on the Sand: Capturing the Outdoors in Photographs

10am – 1pm

Come learn some basic and professional outdoor photography techniques and tips from writer and national photographer Greg Farley. Learn to take your camera off the “automatic” settings and onto the “manual” settings in just a couple of hours. Workshop participants will spend time inside learning camera operations, then head outside to apply what they’ve learned. Never again let nature’s beauty escape your lens! Bring your camera (film, DSLR, or point and shoot), extra batteries and a sense of adventure! Meet in the Visitor Center auditorium.

Birds of a Feather: Take Flight on a Bird Walk

10am – 1pm

With spring migration in full swing, the Refuge is all aflutter! Experience the thrill of seeing swallows (four different species) or the “wichity wichity” of the common yellowthroat! Join birder Eric Slagle, an expert who knows the ins and outs of birding at Nisqually, for a bird walk full of the sights and sounds of one of the Refuge’s largest treasures – the birds! Meet at the landing overlooking the pond at the Visitor Center.

Sunday, April 8

Our Amazing Plant World

1pm – 2:30pm

Spring is the perfect time to experience the Refuge plant life in all its diversity! Join Sally Vogel on a nature walk through the Refuge—all the while learning about plant-insect interactions, adaptations for survival and other interesting facts. You only live once: Stop to smell the flowers! Meet at the flagpole in front of the Visitor Center.

Saturday, April 14

Birds of a Feather: Take Flight on a Bird Walk

8:30am – 12 noon

Experience the thrill of seeing a Peregrine Falcon (the world’s fastest bird) or of hearing a woodpecker peck-

ing away (up to 20 pecks per second)! Join birder Dave Richardson, an expert who knows the ins and outs of birding at Nisqually, for a bird walk full of the sights and sounds of one of the Refuge’s largest treasures—the birds! Meet at the landing overlooking the pond at the Visitor Center.

The Beauty of Nisqually

1pm – 3pm

From bitterns to butterflies, chickadees to crabapples, the Refuge is home to many types of wildlife. Join naturalist Juni Greenough on this nature walk that is sure to teach you something new about the creatures of the Refuge. Meet at the flagpole in front of the Visitor Center.

Sunday, April 15

Nature Up Close: Introduction to Macro Nature Photography

10am – 12 noon

Dew drops on flower petals; the eyes of insects. These details represent the oft overlooked true visual poetry of nature. Join Refuge photographer John Whitehead for discussion, demonstration, and practice of up close nature photography. Meet in the Visitor Center.

The Nisqually and Medicine Creek: Where Nature, Culture and History Converge

1pm - 2:30pm

Lynn Corliss leads you down history’s winding path on this historic tour. Learn about the events surrounding the signing of the Medicine Creek Treaty; explore how the Nisqually people came to the Nisqually delta and how their lives changed with the settlement of Europeans. This walk will also focus on the significant events that surrounded the signing of the Medicine Creek Treaty. Discover important things about the people who enjoyed this land before you did. Meet at the flagpole in front of the Visitor Center.

Saturday, April 21

Birds of a Feather: Take Flight on a Bird Walk

8:30am – 12 noon

See April 14 for a complete description of this program.



How to Keep a Wave on the Sand: Capturing the Outdoors in Photographs

10am – 1pm

See April 7 for a complete description of this program.

It's in Your Nature: Exploring the Wild

10am – 12 noon

From bitterns to butterflies, chickadees to crabapples, the Refuge is home to many types of wildlife. Join naturalists Art Pavey, Jan Kramer, and Cheri Greenwood on this nature walk that is sure to teach you something new about the creatures of the Refuge. Meet in the Visitor Center.

Saturday, April 28

Birds of a Feather: Take Flight on a Bird Walk

10am – 1pm

See April 7 for a complete description of this program.

May

Friday, May 4 – Sunday, May 6

Grays Harbor Shorebird Festival

9am – 4pm, Hoquiam High School

Don't miss your chance to celebrate the spring shorebird migration that happens every year along our coast. Join in the many activities offered at the Festival including field trips, lectures and a birding marketplace. Best shorebird viewing at Grays Harbor NWR is Friday from 10:45am to 2:45pm, Saturday from 11:45am to 3:45pm, and Sunday from 12:40pm to 4:40 pm. For more detailed information about the schedule of events, visit www.shorebirdfestival.com

Saturday, May 5

Birding Basics: Learning to See

9am – 11am

What subtle cues do experienced birders use to quickly and accurately identify species? Birding is nothing less than the art of seeing, so the techniques used by birders increase awareness of all things natural. Refuge Ranger Michael Schramm will guide you

through the estuary's diverse habitats on an odyssey of avian discovery, all the while teaching the ins and outs of birding. Meet at the landing overlooking the pond at the Visitor Center – and remember to bring binoculars!

The Beauty of Nisqually

1pm – 3pm

See April 14 for a complete description of this program.

Saturday, May 12

How to Keep a Wave on the Sand: Capturing the Outdoors in Photographs

10am – 1pm

See April 7 for a complete description of this program.

Birds of a Feather: Take Flight on a Bird Walk

10am – 1pm

See April 7 for a complete description of this program.

Saturday, May 19

Birds of Nisqually

9am – 11 am

Many species of bird, from the tiny Rufous Hummingbird to the majestic Bald Eagle, nest on the Refuge. Check out the avian beauty with longtime birder Phil Kelley, who knows the Refuge backwards and forwards. On this guided walk, you are sure to learn something new! Meet at the landing overlooking the pond at the Visitor Center.

Sunday, May 20 The Nisqually and Medicine Creek: Where Nature, Culture and History Converge

1pm - 2:30pm

See April 15 for a complete description of this program.

Saturday, May 26

How to Keep a Wave on the Sand: Capturing the Outdoors in Photographs

10am – 1pm

See April 7 for a complete description of this program.



Volunteer Lynn Corliss presents her program on the Nisqually people and Medicine Creek.

It's in Your Nature: Exploring the Wild

10am – 12 noon

See April 21 for a complete description of this program.

Birds of a Feather: Take Flight on a Bird Walk

10am – 1pm

See April 7 for a complete description of this program.

Sunday, May 27

It's in Your Nature: Exploring the Wild

10am - 11:30am

From bitterns to butterflies, chickadees to crabapples, the Refuge is home to many types of wildlife. Join naturalist Donna Snow on a nature walk that is sure to teach you something new about the creatures of the Refuge. Meet in the Visitor Center.

June

Saturday, June 2

Birding Basics: Learning to See

9am – 11am

See May 5 for a complete description of this program.

Sunday, June 3

The Photographer's Eye: The Basics of Outdoor Photography

10am – 12 noon

Nature photography offers individuals the opportunity to develop their finer naturalist instincts and vision, and the beginner's eye is often the eye that sees most clearly. With this in mind, experienced Refuge photographer John Whitehead offers guidance in technique and composition, with emphasis on learning to utilizing manual settings in order to more completely capture the image you want to capture. Meet at the Visitor Center.

Saturday, June 9

How to Keep a Wave on the Sand: Capturing the Outdoors in Photographs

10am – 1pm

See April 7 for a complete description of this program.

Sunday, June 10

The Nisqually and Medicine Creek: Where Nature, Culture and History Converge

1pm - 2:30pm

See April 15 for a complete description of this program.

Saturday, June 16

Birds of a Feather: Take Flight on a Bird Walk

10am – 1pm

See April 7 for a complete description of this program..

Sunday, June 17

It's in Your Nature: Exploring the Wild

10am - 11:30am

See May 27 for a complete description of this program.

Saturday, June 23

How to Keep a Wave on the Sand: Capturing the Outdoors in Photographs

10am – 1pm

See April 7 for a complete description of this program.

It's in Your Nature: Exploring the Wild

10am – 12 noon

See April 21 for a complete description of this program.

Sunday, June 24

Nature Up Close: Introduction to Macro Nature Photography

10am – 12 noon

See April 15 for a complete description of this program.

Saturday, June 30

Birds of a Feather: Take Flight on a Bird Walk

10am – 1pm

See April 7 for a complete description of this program.

Coastal America Partnership Award Presented

On December 10th the Coastal America Partnership presented the 2010 Partnership Award to the Nisqually Estuary Restoration Team, composed of 17 recipients including the Refuge that were instrumental in the restoration of 900 acres of Refuge and tribal lands. The EPA nominated the Nisqually Estuary Restoration Team for this award, which is the highest level award for partnership efforts. The award from the President recognizes outstanding collaborative, multi-agency and multi-stakeholder efforts that leverage and combine resources to accomplish coastal restoration, preservation, protection, and education projects. For more information about Coastal America Partnership, visit <http://www.coastalamerica.gov> ✎



The 17 recipients of the Coastal America Partnership Award include: Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, Nisqually Indian Tribe, Ducks Unlimited, Joint Base Lewis McChord (Department of Defense), National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, NOAA - Northwest Restoration Center, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Puget Sound Partnership, Salmon Recovery Funding Board, USFWS - Washington Fish and Wildlife Office, U.S. Geological Survey, WDFW - Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program, Nisqually River Council, Pierce County Lead Entity, South Sound Kennedy-Goldsborough Creek Salmon Recovery, South Sound Deschutes Salmon Recovery, and the West Sound Watersheds Council.

Volunteers Celebrated for Service to Refuge

Since the opening of the Estuary Trail boardwalk on February 1st, 2011, the Refuge has seen a remarkable increase in visitation that has demanded much more energy of our volunteers. That they have risen to the challenge comes as no surprise. Last year, the Refuge's 100 volunteers contributed 16,943 hours performing tasks that included, but were not limited to, staffing the Visitor Center and administrative offices, working with school groups, managing habitat, roving trails, and general maintenance.

On February 10th, volunteers were recognized for their outstanding service to the Refuge at the annual volunteer recognition event. The volunteers who earned the top honors all contributed over 450



Refuge Manager Jean Takekawa with Jan Kramer, 2011 Volunteer of the Year.

hours of their time in 2011. Thank you Barb Peterson (466 hours) and Distinguished Volunteers Art Pavey

(559 hours), Dennis Ellison (660 hours) and Karen Yochem (973 hours). Jan Kramer was recognized as this year's Volunteer of the Year with 510 hours contributed through a broad range of activities including Grays Harbor Shorebird Festival, the Visitor Center, Federal Junior Duck Stamp Contest, Nisqually Watershed Festival, Summer Lecture Series, Trail roving and wood Duck surveys.

The volunteers at Nisqually are the backbone of the Refuge. It is only through their altruism that we are able to effectively execute preservation efforts and public outreach. For all the staff at Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, the dedication and generosity of our volunteers are an inspiration. ✎

New and Renewing Friends Membership

Winter 2012

Senior/Student (\$15)

Aurora Bolding
Carol Carihfield
Lin H. Hines
Clyde McBrayer
Irene Von Tobel
Emmalou Lyle
Lorraine Potter
Len Elliott
Leslie Phillips
Don Blanke
Helen E. Hepp
Barbara Newman
Joe Brignone
Merrill Davison
Dorothy Laugharn
Peggy Shaules

Individual (\$25)

Bob Morgan and Lynn Graves
Curt Johnson
Anna E. Sumner
Evelyn L. Failor
Sandia Slaby
Polly Taylor
Georgia Douglas
Richard Mesmer
Jeannette Barreca and Bill Yake
B. Jean Black
Constance Bond
Cheri Schell
Judy Schramm

Family (\$50)

Mariann F. Cook Andrews
Isabelle Bohman
Carol and Robert Hopkins
Paul and Babara Webster

Bill Kellington
Quentin Powers and
Carrie Dupre
John and Elly Walkowiak
Supporting (\$100)
Bunny Hyink
Ed Sakai

Friends of Nisqually NWR

is a 501(c)(3)
nonprofit organization
established in 1998 to
promote conservation
of the natural and
cultural resources and
fund education and
outreach programs at
**Nisqually National
Wildlife Refuge
Complex.**

Join Friends Of Nisqually NWRC!

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Email _____

- ☐ Please send information on making Friends of Nisqually NWRC a beneficiary of my estate.
☐ Check here to receive an electronic version of *The Flyway* newsletter by email.

Individual/Family Memberships

- ☐ \$15 Student/Senior
☐ \$25 Individual
☐ \$50 Family
☐ \$100 Supporting
☐ \$250 Partner
☐ \$500 Patron
☐ \$1000 Benefactor

Corporate/Business Memberships

- ☐ \$250 Business Sponsor
☐ \$500 Community Partner
☐ \$1000 Sustaining Business
☐ \$2500 Corporate Patron
☐ \$5000+ Corporate Benefactor

Please make checks payable to: Friends of Nisqually NWRC, 100 Brown Farm Rd, Olympia, WA 98516

Your tax deductible contribution will help preserve the unique habitats, fish, and wildlife of the Nisqually Delta and the Grays Harbor Tidelands.

OFFICE USE Rec'd _____ Mo _____
New _____ Renew _____ Ent _____ Mld _____

**Friends of Nisqually
National Wildlife Refuge**

100 Brown Farm Rd.
Olympia, WA 98516

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Olympia WA
Permit #206

Return Service Requested

"...conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people..."

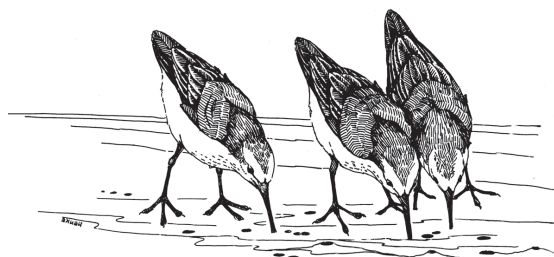
Grays Harbor Shorebird Festival

May 4-6

Hoquiam, WA

The 17th Annual Shorebird Festival promises you a great nature experience. Witness the migrating shorebirds at Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuge. Take part in a variety of events including field trips, lectures, exhibitors, vendors, a banquet and auction.

**SAVE THE
DATE!**



www.shorebirdfestival.com
(360) 289-5048